

Summer Reading Suggestions

1. **At Home in Japan: A Foreign Woman's Journey of Discovery** [DB072780](#)
 - California-born author recounts her emigration to Australia at age twelve and decision to pursue graduate study in Japan in 1978. Describes meeting and marrying a Japanese man, moving to his home village, and striving to adapt to its traditional lifestyle.
2. **The Hundred-Year Walk: An Armenian Odyssey** [DB084803](#)
 - The granddaughter of an Armenian citizen recounts her grandfather's experiences during World War I as described in his journals. Stepan was separated from his family during deportations to internment camps. He discovered the genocide facing them all and escaped just before his own impending slaughter, only to face a perilous journey.
3. **Lucky Child: A Daughter of Cambodia Reunites with the Sister She Left Behind** [DB060577](#)
 - Genocide survivor follows up her memoir *First They Killed My Father* (RC 51298) with a dual account of her life in America and her older sister Chou's life in Cambodia after the Khmer Rouge. Describes their disparate experiences and their 1995 reunion fifteen years after her departure.
4. **A Little More About Me** [DB051281](#)
 - Autobiographical essays explore the author's experiences, and observations of art and nature during her travels. She describes whitewater rafting in the Rockies in "Powerhouse by the Book" and envisions trekking on the Himalayas in "In Bhutan There Is No Way to Be Famous."
5. **Saddam Hussein: Absolute Ruler of Iraq** [DB040910](#)
 - Begins with Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, then recounts Hussein's early life of abandonment, poverty, and abuse. Continues by interweaving Hussein's life story with the history of Iraq and concludes with an account of Desert Storm.
6. **Holidays in Heck** [DB073988](#)
 - Satirist describes somewhat-less-risky trips he took, often with his wife and children, between 2003 and 2011. Includes his adventures--and sometimes misadventures--sailing up China's Yangtze River, skiing in Ohio, and crossing Kyrgyzstan on horseback.
7. **The Latehomecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir** [DBC02893](#)
 - In search of a place to call home, thousands of Hmong families made the journey from the war-torn jungles of Laos to the overcrowded refugee camps of Thailand and onward to America, but lacking a written language of their own, the Hmong experience has been primarily recorded by others. Driven to tell her family's story after her grandmother's death, *The Latehomecomer* is Kao Kalia Yang's tribute to the remarkable woman whose spirit held them all together.
8. **The Burma Spring: Aung San Suu Kyi and the New Struggle for the Soul of a Nation** [DB081275](#)
 - Pederson focuses on Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi, the inspiration for Myanmar's (formerly Burma) first steps towards democracy. Includes exclusive interviews with Suu Kyi after fifteen years of house arrest and presents formerly undisclosed diplomatic cables. Pederson examines the hardships Burma faced during its struggle for liberty
9. **Rice without Rain** [DB034084](#)
 - In the revolutionary turmoil of Thailand in the 1970s, seventeen-year-old Jinda finds her life beset by politics and terror. After a two-year drought, the harvest is bitter. Jinda's sister has no milk, and her baby starves to death. Then a group of radical students comes from Bangkok to work for the summer in Jinda's valley, and she and the student leader, Ned, fall in love.
10. **The Japan That Can Say No** [DB032739](#)

- Authorized translation of the book originally published in Japan, and also circulated on Capitol Hill in an unauthorized version. Fearing reprisal, Morita, Sony Chairman and co-author of the Japanese version, removed his name and material from this edition. Ishihara claims that as Japan moves forward technologically and economically, there must be more cooperation between Japan and the U.S.